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which it relates, contrary to the nature of adjectives in English; and though we say the action was *amiss*, we never say an *amiss* action.

9. *Amis* is used by *Shakespeare* as a noun substantive.

To my sick soul, as fin's true nature is,
Each toy seems prologue to some great *amiss*. *Hamlet*.

AM'ISSI'ON. *n. f.* [*amissio*, Lat.] Loss.

To AM'IT. *v. a.* [*amitto*, Lat.] To lose: a word little in use.
Ice is water congealed by the frigidty of the air, whereby it acquireth no new form, but rather a consistence or determination of its diffuency, and *amitteth* not its essence, but condition of fluidity. *Brown's Vulgar Errors*, b. ii.

AM'ITY. *n. f.* [*amitie*, Fr. *amicitia*, Lat.] Friendship, whether publick between nations, opposed to war, or among the people, opposed to discord, or between private persons.

The prophet David did think, that the very meeting of men together, and their accompanying one another to the house of God, should make the bond of their love inflexible, and tie them in a league of inviolable *amity*. *Hooker*, b. v. § 38.

The monarchy of Great Britain was in league and *amity* with all the world. *Sir John Davies on Ireland*.

You have a noble and a true conceit
Of godlike *amity*; which appears most strongly
In bearing thus the absence of your lord. *Shak. Merch. of Ven.*
And ye, oh Tyrians, with immortal hate
Pursue this race, this service dedicate
To my deplored ashes; let there be

'Twixt us and them no league nor *amity*. *Sir John Denham*.

AMMONIAC. *n. f.* The name of a drug.
GUM AMMONIAC is brought from the East Indies, and is supposed to ooze from an umbelliferous plant. Dioscorides says, it is the juice of a kind of ferula growing in Barbary, and the plant is called *agafyllis*. Pliny calls the tree *metopion*, which, he says, grows near the temple of Jupiter Ammon, whence the gum takes its name. It ought to be in dry drops, white within, yellowish without, easily fusible, resinous, somewhat bitter, and of a very sharp taste and smell, somewhat like garlic. This gum is said to have served the ancients for incense, in their sacrifices. It enters several medicinal compositions, as an attenuant and detergent; and, outwardly applied, it is resolute and suppurative. *Savary. Trevous*.

SAL AMMONIAC is a volatile salt of two kinds, ancient and modern. The ancient sort, described by Pliny and Dioscorides, was a native salt, generated in those large inns or caravanferas, where the crowds of pilgrims, coming from the temple of Jupiter Ammon, used to lodge; who, in those parts, travelling upon camels, and those creatures when in Cyrene, a province of Egypt, where that celebrated temple stood, urining in the stables, or, say some, in the parched sands, out of this urine, which is remarkably strong, arose a kind of salt, denominated sometimes from the temple, *Ammoniac*, and sometimes from the country, *Cyreniac*. Since the cessation of these pilgrimages, no more of this salt is produced there; and, from this deficiency, some suspect there never was any such thing: but this suspicion is removed, by the large quantities of a salt, nearly of the same nature, thrown out by mount *Ætna*. The characters of the ancient *sal ammoniac* are, that it cools water, turns aqua fortis into aqua regia, and consequently dissolves gold.

The modern *sal ammoniac* is entirely facitious, and made in Egypt; where several long-necked glass bottles, being filled with foot, a little sea salt, and the urine of cattle, and having their mouths luted with a piece of wet cotton, are placed over an oven or furnace, contrived for the purpose, in a thick bed of ashes, nothing but the necks appearing, and kept there two days and a night, with a continual strong fire. The steam swells up the cotton, and forms a paste at the vent-hole, hindering the salts from evaporating; which, being confined, stick to the top of the bottle, and are, upon breaking it, taken out in those large cakes, which they send to England. Only foot exhaled from dung, is the proper ingredient in this preparation; and the dung of camels affords the strongest and best.

Our chymists imitate the Egyptian *sal ammoniac*, by adding one part of common salt to five of urine; with which some mix that quantity of foot, and putting the whole in a vessel, they raise from it, by sublimation, a white, friable, farinaceous substance, which they call *sal ammoniac*. There are various preparations of this salt used in pharmacy; as, *sublimatum sal ammoniac*, and *flowers of sal ammoniac*, used as sudorifics, diuretics, and good aperients; *volatile sal ammoniac*, used against malignant fevers, as a sudorific, and in pocket bottles; *spirit of sal ammoniac*, of various kinds. *Chambers*.

AMMONIACAL. *adj.* [from *ammoniac*.] Having the properties of ammoniac salt.

Human blood calcin'd, yields no fixed salt; nor is it a *sal ammoniac*; for that remains immutable after repeated distillations; and distillation destroys the *ammoniacal* quality of animal salts, and turns them alkaline: so that it is a salt neither quite fixed, nor quite volatile, nor quite acid, nor quite alkaline, nor quite *ammoniacal*; but soft and benign, approaching nearest to the nature of *sal ammoniac*. *Arbutnot*.

AMMUNITION. *n. f.* [supposed by some to come from *amonia*, which, in the barbarous ages, seems to have signified supply of

provision; but it, surely, may be more reasonably derived from *munitio*, fortification; *choies a munitions*, things for the fortresses.] Military stores.

They must make themselves defensible against strangers; and must have the assistance of some able military man, and convenient arms and *ammunition* for their defence. *Bacon*.

The colonel said to put in the *ammunition* he brought with him; which was only twelve barrels of powder, and twelve hundred weight of match. *Clarendon*, b. viii.

All the rich mines of learning ranfact are,
To furnish *ammunition* for this war. *Denham*.

But now his stores of *ammunition* spent,
His naked valour is his only guard:

Rare thunders are from his dumb cannon sent,
And solitary guns are scarcely heard. *Dryden's Annus Mir.*

AMMUNITION BREAD. *n. f.* Bread for the supply of the armies or garrisons.

AMNESTY. *n. f.* [*amnestia*.] An act of oblivion; an act by which crimes against the government, to a certain time, are so obliterated, that they can never be brought into charge.

I never read of a law enacted to take away the force of all laws, by which a man may safely commit upon the last of June, what he would infallibly be hanged for, if he committed it on the first of July; by which the greatest criminals may escape, provided they continue long enough in power, to anticipate their crimes, and, by fiddling them a while, deceive the legislature into an *amnesty*. *Swift*.

AMNICOLIST. *n. f.* [*amnicola*, Lat.] Inhabiting near a river. *D.*

AMNIGENOUS. *n. f.* [*amnigenus*, Lat.] Born of a river. *Dia.*

AMNION. *n. f.* [Lat. perhaps from *amion*.]

The innermost membrane with which the foetus in the womb is most immediately covered, and with which the rest of the secundines, the chorion, and alantois, are ejected after birth. It is whiter and thinner than the chorion. It also contains a nutritious humour, separated by glands for that purpose, with which the foetus is preserved. It is outwardly clothed with the urinary membrane, and the chorion, which sometimes stick to close to one another, that they can scarce be separated. It has also its vessels from the same origin as the chorion. *Quincy*.

AMOMUM. *n. f.* [Lat.] A sort of fruit.

The commentators on Pliny and Dioscorides differ about the ancient *amomum*; but the generality of them suppose it to be a fruit different from ours. Scaliger is confident, that the *amomum* was no fruit; but the wood, which bore some resemblance to a bunch of grapes, and was used in embalming of bodies; whence the name *mummy* was given to bodies embalmed with it. The modern *amomum* appears to be the *spice*, or *spice*, of the ancients, or *bastard stone-parisley*. It resembles the muskat grape, grows in clusters, and is about the thickness of a pea, round, membranous, and divided into three cells, that contain several brown angular grains, of a very strong aromatick taste and smell. This fruit is brought from the East Indies, and makes part of the composition of treacle. It is of a hot spicy taste and smell. There is likewise another paler seed, named *amomum*; but neither are in much repute in physick. *Trevoux. Chambers*.

AMONG. *prep.* [among, zamong, Saxon.]

1. Mingled with; placed with other persons or things; on every side.

Amongst strawberries sow here and there some borage-seed; and you shall find the strawberries under those leaves far more large than their fellows. *Bacon's Natural Hist.* No 441.

The voice of God they heard,
Now walking in the garden, by soft winds
Brought to their ears, while day declin'd: they heard,
And from his presence hid themselves, among

The thickest trees, both man and wife. *Paradise Lost*.

2. Conjoined with others, so as to make part of the number.

I have then, as you see, observed the failings of many great wits amongst the moderns, who have attempted to write an epic poem. *Dryden's Juvenal, Dedicat.*

There were, among the old Roman statues, several of Venus in different postures and habits; as there are many particular figures of her made after the same design. *Addison on Italy*.

AMORIST. *n. f.* [from *amour*.] An innamorato; a gallant; a man professing love.

Female beauties are as fickle in their faces as their minds; though casualties should spare them, age brings in a necessity of decay; leaving doters upon red and white, perplexed by uncertainty both of the continuance of their mistress's kindness, and her beauty, both which are necessary to the *amorist's* joys and quiet. *Boyle*.

AMOROSO. *n. f.* [Ital.] A man enamoured.

AMOROUS. *adj.* [*amorofo*, Ital.]

1. In love; enamoured; with the particle of before the thing loved; in *Shakespeare*, on.

Sure, my brother is *amorous* on Hero; and hath withdrawn her father to break with him about it.

Apes, as soon as they have brought forth their young, keep their eyes

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eyes fastened on them, and are never weary of admiring their beauty: so *amorous* is nature of whatsoever the produces. *Dryden's Dufresnoy*.

2. Naturally inclined to love; disposed to fondness; fond.

The *amorous* master own'd her potent eyes,
Sigh'd when he look'd, and trembl'd as he drew;
Each flowing line confirm'd his first surprize,
And as the piece advanc'd, the passion grew. *Prior*.

3. Relating, or belonging to love.

I that am not inap'd for sportive tricks,
Nor made to court an *amorous* looking-glance,
I, that am rudely stamp'd,

And into all things from her air inspir'd
The spirit of love, and *amorous* delight. *Parad. Lost*, b. viii.

In the *amorous* net
First caught they lik'd; and each his liking chose.

O! how I long my careless limbs to lay
Under the plantane's shade, and all the day
With *amorous* airs my fancy entertain,
Invoke the muses, and improve my vein! *Waller*.

AMOROUSLY. *adv.* [from *amorous*.] Fondly; lovingly.

When thou wilt swim in that live-bath,
Each fish, which every channel hath,
Will *amorously* to thee swim,

Gladder to catch thee, than thou him. *Donne*.

AMOROUSNESS. *n. f.* [from *amorous*.] The quality of being *amorous*; fondness; lovingness; love.

All Gynecia's actions were interpreted by Bassilus, as proceeding from jealousy of his *amorousness*. *Sidney*, b. ii.

I can readily believe that Lindamor has wit, and *amorousness* enough, to make him find it more easy to defend fair ladies, than to defend himself against them. *Boyle on Colours*.

AMORT. *adv.* [*à la mort*, Fr.] In the state of the dead; dejected; depreffed; spiritless.

How fares my Kate? what, sweeting, all *amort*? *Shakespeare's Taming of the Shrew*.

AMORTIZATION. *n. f.* [*amortissement*, *amortissable*, Fr.] The

right or act of transferring lands to mortmain; that is, to some community, that never is to cease.

Every one of the religious orders was confirmed by one pope or other; and they made an especial provision for them, after the laws of *amortization* were devised and put in use by princes.

AMORTIZE. *v. a.* [*amortir*, Fr.] To alien lands or tenements to any corporation, guild or fraternity, and their successors; which cannot be done without licence of the king, and the lord of the manour. *Blount*.

This did concern the kingdom to have farms sufficient to maintain an able body out of penury, and to *amortize* part of the lands unto the yeomanry, or middle part of the people. *Bacon's Henry VII*.

To AMO'VE. *v. a.* [*amoveo*, Lat.]

1. To remove from a post or station: a juridical sense.

2. To remove; to move; to alter: a sense now out of use.

Therewith, *amov'd* from his sober mood,
And lives he yet, said he, that wrought this act?
And do the heavens afford him vital food? *Fairy Queen*.

To AMO'UNT. *v. n.* [*monere*, Fr.]

1. To rise to in the accumulative quantity; to compose in the whole; with the particle *to*. It is used of several sums in quantities added together.

Let us compute a little more particularly how much this will *amount to*, or how many oceans of water would be necessary to compose this great ocean rowing in the air, without bounds or banks. *Burnet's Theory of the Earth*.

2. It is used, figuratively, of the consequence rising from any thing taken altogether.

The errors of young men are the ruin of business; but the errors of aged men *amount* but to this, that more might have been done, or sooner. *Bacon's Essays Civil and Moral*.

Judgments that are made on the wrong side of the danger, *amount* to no more than an affectation of skill, without either credit or effect. *D'Estrange*.

AMO'UNT. *n. f.* [from *To amount*.] The sum total; the result of several sums or quantities accumulated.

And now, ye lying vanities of life,
Where are you now, and what is your *amount*?
Vexation, disappointment, and remorse. *Thomson's Winter*.

AMO'UR. *n. f.* [*amour*, Fr. *amor*, Lat.] An affair of gallantry; an intrigue: generally used of vicious love. The *ou* sounds like *oo* in *poor*.

No man is of so general and diffusive a lust, as to prosecute his *amours* all the world over; and let it burn never so outrageously, yet the impure flame will either die of itself, or consume the body that harbours it. *South's Sermons*.

The restless youth search'd all the world around;
But how can Jove in his *amours* be found?

AMPER. *n. f.* [*amppe*, Sax.] A tumour, with inflammation; bile: a word said, by *Skinner*, to be much in use in Essex; but, perhaps, not found in books. *Vol. I*.

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AMPHIBIOUS. *adj.* [*amphi* and *bios*.] That which partakes of two natures, so as to live in two elements; as, in air and water.

A creature of *amphibious* nature;
On land a beast, a fish in water. *Hudibras*, cant. iii.

Those are called *amphibious*, which live freely in the air, upon the earth, and yet are observed to live long upon water, as if they were natural inhabitants of that element; though it be worth the examination to know, whether any of those creatures that live at that ease, and by choice, a good while, or at any time upon the earth, can live, a long time together, perfectly under water. *Locke*.

Fishes contain much oil, and *amphibious* animals participate somewhat of the nature of fishes, and are oily. *Arbutnot*.

AMPHIBIOUSNESS. *n. f.* [from *amphibious*.] The quality of being able to live in different elements.

AMPHIBOLOGICAL. *adj.* [from *amphibology*.] Doubtful.

AMPHIBOLOGICALLY. *adv.* [from *amphibological*.] Doubtfully; with a doubtful meaning.

AMPHIBOLOGY. *n. f.* [*amphibologia*.] Discourse of uncertain meaning. It is distinguished from *equivocation*, which means the double signification of a single word; as, *noli regem occidere, timere bonum est*, is *amphibology*; *captare lepores*, meaning by *lepores*, either hares or jests, is *equivocation*.

Now the fallacies, whereby men deceive others, and are deceived themselves, the ancients have divided into verbal and real; of the verbal, and such as conclude from mistakes of the word, there are but two worthy our notation; the fallacy of equivocation and *amphibology*. *Brown's Vulgar Errors*.

In defining obvious appearances, we are to use what is most plain and easy; that the mind be not misled by *amphibologies*, or ill conceived notions, into fallacious deductions. *Glanville's Sceptis Scientifica*.

AMPHIBOLOUS. *adj.* [*amphi* and *bolous*.] Told from one to another; striking each way.

Never was there such an *amphibolous* quarrel, both parties declaring themselves for the king, and making use of his name in all their remonstrances, to justify their actions. *Howell*.

AMPHIBOLOGY. *n. f.* [*amphi* and *logia*.] Equivocation; ambiguity. *D.*

AMPHIBOTEN. *n. f.* [Lat. *amphibotēn*.] A serpent supposed to have two heads.

That the *amphibotēna*, that is, a smaller kind of serpent, which moveth forward and backward, hath two heads, or one at either extreme, was affirmed by Nicander, and others. *Brown's Vulgar Errors*, b. iii.

Scorpion, and asp, and *amphibotēna* dire,
Cerales horn'd, hydrus, and ellops drear,
And diapas. *Milton's Paradise Lost*, b. x.

AMPHIBOTEN. *n. f.* [Lat. *amphibotēn*, of *amphi* and *botēn*, a shadow.]

Those people dwelling in climates, wherein the shadows, at different times of the year, fall both ways; to the north pole, when the sun is in the southern signs, and to the south pole, when he is in the northern signs. These are the people who inhabit the torrid zone.

AMPHITHEATRE. *n. f.* [of *amphitheatre*, of *amphi* and *theatre*.] A building in a circular or oval form, having its area encompassed with rows of seats one above another; where spectators might behold spectacles, as stage-plays, or gladiators. The theatres of the ancients were built in the form of a semicircle, only exceeding a just semicircle by one fourth part of the diameter; and the amphitheatre is two theatres joined together; so that the longest diameter of the amphitheatre, was to the shortest, as one and a half to one.

Within, an *amphitheatre* appear'd
Rais'd in degrees; to sixty paces rear'd,
That when a man was plac'd in one degree,
Height was allow'd for him above to see. *Dryd. Fables*.

Conceive a man placed in the burning iron chair at Lyons, amid the insults and mockeries of a crowded *amphitheatre*, and still keeping his seat; or stretched upon a grate of iron, over coals of fire, and breathing out his soul, among the exquisite sufferings of such a tedious execution, rather than renounce his religion, or blaspheme his Saviour. *Addis. on the Chr. Rel.*

AMPLE. *adj.* [*amplus*, Lat.]

1. Large; wide; extended.

Heav'n descends
In universal bounty, shedding herbs,
And fruits, and flowers, on nature's ample lap. *Thomson*.

2. Great in bulk.

Did your letters pierce the queen to any demonstration of grief?

She took 'em, and read 'em in my presence,
And now and then an ample tear trill'd down
Her delicate cheeks. *Shakespeare. King Lear*.

3. Unlimited; without restriction.

Have what you ask, your presents I receive;
Land where, and when you please, with ample leave. *Dryd*.

4. Liberal; large; without parsimony.

If we speak of strict justice, God could no way have been bound to require man's labours in so large and ample manner as human felicity doth import; in as much as the dignity of this exceedeth so far the other's value. *Hooker*.

5. Large;